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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3883
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY 0098

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 000754

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/10/2018
TAGS: [KDEM](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [SNAR](#) [BL](#) [SW](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE REQUEST: EXPULSION OF DEA FROM BOLIVIA
REF: SECSTATE 118934

Classified By: Pol Counselor Marc Koehler, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

Poloff delivered reftel demarche to Sara Ramirez, Bolivia Desk Officer at the MFA. She said the EU's Latin America Group (COLAT) in Brussels is aware of the issue, but has not discussed it in depth. She said the EU realizes there will be "serious implications" for the EU if the DEA must depart Bolivia. If the U.S. ends anti-trafficking assistance, then the EU must discuss how it can help to fill in the gap, including using its aid agencies. Due to "comparative advantages" within the donor community, Swedish policy is not to work on or provide aid to combating drugs internationally. This will not change for at least five years. Ramirez added that it is "obvious" the U.S. is trying to find a good solution, but Bolivia needs an "enemy in its rhetoric."
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